



Grand Lodge Bulletin

M.W. Bro. W. J. COLLETT, Editor

SEVENTY-FIRST COMMUNICATION

GRAND LODGE OF ALBERTA

AT

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

June 11-12, 1976

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WHERE FRIENDSHIPS ARE ESTABLISHED

The seventy-first communication of this Masonic jurisdiction will commence in the Macdonald Hotel, Edmonton, on Friday, June 11th, 1976 at 8:00 p.m. It is hoped that every lodge on our Grand Register will be represented by at least one of its three principal officers as well as by the Past Masters of the lodges.

The format for this communication will be similar to that of last year. The ballot boxes, and registration, will open at 7:00 p.m. on Friday and close at 10:00 p.m. They will open at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday and close again at 11:00 a.m. It is our aim to complete the business of Grand Lodge by Noon on Saturday.

The installation of the Grand Lodge Officers will commence at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, under the direction of M.W. Bro. George Sterling, and will be completed by 4:00 p.m.

The annual banquet will be held in the Macdonald Hotel commencing at 6:00 p.m. Saturday. The guest speaker this year will be Mr. Robert S. Olshaski of Lethbridge. Mr. Olshaski is the Provincial Deputy for Alberta of the Knights of Columbus and will speak to us regarding the aims and objectives of this worthwhile organization.

This year our ladies will be able to attend the Grand Lodge banquet as it is felt that the topic will not be of a Masonic nature. This will give those who travel to attend our communication the opportunity of having their ladies accompany them at the banquet. Tickets must be obtained through your Lodge Secretary not later than May 31st, 1976.

Our constitution, as well as the Ceremony of Installation, requires all Junior Wardens, Senior Wardens, Installed Masters as well as all Past Masters to attend our communications therefore each such member is expected to be present and do his part in the business of our Grand Lodge.

See you in Edmonton.

W. A. MILLIGAN,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE CUSTOM

M.W. Bro. F. G. FOX P.G.M.

In a few weeks some hundreds of Masons will be assembling for the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Alberta. It is appropriate, therefore, to explain some aspects of Grand Lodge usage and custom which, though they are widely known, are not equally widely understood. I propose now to discuss two such customs; first the kinds of form, and second the reason for The Grand Lodge always working in the Fellowcraft, degree.

Consider first the question of form. When the members of four lodges met together early in 1717 with a view to forming a superintending grand body they placed the oldest Master in the chair and conducted their proceedings in what they called **Due Form**. They met again on June 24th, 1717, elected a Grand Master of Masons, and closed their proceedings in what they called **Ample Form**. We do not know whether they had any precedent in operative Masonic practice for making such a distinction, but it seems most probable that they had not. They created the precedent there and then, and it has been observed ever since.

The practice is this. When the Grand Master personally presides over the proceedings, Grand Lodge is said to be opened and closed in **Ample Form**. If the Grand Master, for any reason, is unable to be present his duties automatically pass to the Deputy Grand Master. There is an interesting point here. The Grand Master has not the power to delegate his duties to anyone should he be unable to perform them. The Constitution and the Grand Lodge Installation ceremony clearly establish the authority, in the absence of the Grand Master, of the Deputy Grand Master. Thus if the Grand Master is unable to conduct Grand Lodge the responsibility falls to the Deputy Grand Master. He in his wisdom, and only he, can delegate a Past Grand Master or a Grand Warden to preside over Grand Lodge. He would delegate only under unusual circumstances, for it is generally expected by Masons that when the Grand Master cannot preside the Deputy Grand Master shall do so.

This brings us back to form. In the absence of the Grand Master, the presiding officer will be the Deputy Grand Master or a Past Grand Master delegated by him, and Grand Lodge will open, work, and close in **Due Form**. If the Grand Master opens Grand Lodge but is obliged to withdraw before the work is done the Grand Lodge will open in **Ample Form** but close in **Due Form**. It is equally possible for it to open in **Due Form** and close in **Ample Form**.

The reason that we work in the Fellowcraft degree is of similar origin, but is perhaps a little less clear. It is related to the way in which the ritual and ceremony of the Craft developed after 1717. We must look to the earliest days of the Grand Lodge of England for an explanation.

Early in 1717 four old London lodges met in the Apple Tree tavern. They were concerned about the ancient craft, and determined that it should take a new direction. They put in the chair the oldest Master Mason (i.e. Master of a Lodge) present, declared

themselves to be a Grand Lodge pro-tempore, and resolved to meet to select a Grand Master from among themselves. Accordingly they met again on St. John the Baptist's day, June 24th, 1717, at the Goose and Gridiron alehouse with the oldest Master Mason presiding. They constituted themselves the Grand Lodge of England, and for their government they elected and installed Anthony Sayer to be Grand Master of Masons, and Captain Joseph Elliot and Jacob Lamball to be Grand Wardens. They closed their proceedings in what they called Ample Form. From that simple beginning has come the Craft Lodge and Grand Lodge Masonry of today.

At birth that first Grand Lodge had very little of the speculative Masonry so familiar to us. It has no Constitution, no recognition of Ancient Landmarks, no bylaws, and no degree system. It did have a simple catechism - perhaps more than one - inherited from the old operative Craft, and it recognized Apprentices and Craftsmen. (In passing, it should be mentioned that the terms **Entered Apprentice** and **Fellow Craft** are of Scottish origin). The Master was simply a Craftsman who was serving as Master of the lodge.

That condition did not long prevail. On June 24th, 1718 George Payne was installed as Grand Master of Masons. He called upon the brethren to bring to the Grand Lodge any old "writings and records concerning Masons and Masonry" that they might have in their possession. This elicited several old copies of Gothic Constitutions and charges. Payne himself undertook the collation of these old documents.

At the Communication of June, 1721, Bro. James Anderson was introduced to digest the old Constitutions and other documents and prepare an improved version. Payne already had the Ancient Charges and Regulations in hand. In 1722 Anderson's Constitution, including Payne's compilation of the Ancient Charges and Regulations, was approved and published, and in January 1723 it was formally adopted.

Meanwhile, more lodges were aligning themselves with the Grand Lodge, and all the lodges were making Masons. The ritual and ceremony were evolving. Two degrees, Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft, had been developed from the old manuscripts, and they apparently encompassed parts of all three of our degrees. The Master Mason degree as we know it did not exist, but it does appear to have been known as a sort of honorary degree. It was conferred only by the Grand Lodge at Quarterly Communications on selected brethren. Just how that was done and with what ritual or ceremony is not known. But a third degree ceremony was ready to be used, and there was pressure to put the use into the power of the lodges. Accordingly in November, 1725, Grand Lodge rescinded the regulation limiting the making of Master Masons to the Quarterly Communication, and transferred the authority to do so to the lodges. From that time forward the Masters of lodges could make Master Masons, with the consent of their Wardens and the majority of their brethren. From that time also there have been three recognized degrees in Masonry.

However, the newly given power to make Master Masons was not universally welcomed or accepted by the lodges. Some conferred the degree, others did not.

Still others refused to recognize the degree at all. That condition persisted for many years, and it was not until after 1760 that the Master Mason degree was generally accepted as a prerequisite to the office of Master of a Lodge.

Thus, for more than 40 years after the birth of the Grand Lodge the only degrees recognized by all the lodges were those of Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft. The lodges worked in the Fellowcraft degree and as a natural consequence so also did the Grand Lodge.

With the passage of time all the degrees were expanded and embellished by the addition of lectures. After the union of the two great Grand Lodges in 1814 a sustained effort was made to develop a uniform ritual and ceremony for the constituent lodges. Many however, preferred to carry on as they always had, and the United Grand Lodge did not make a great issue of local deviations from preferred ritual. Indeed, it observed entrenched custom itself by continuing to work in the second degree.

That custom remains unchanged today. We would gain nothing by abandoning it, and by cherishing it we are regularly reminded of the antiquity and the nature of our origins.

**NOMINATIONS FOR
GRAND LODGE OFFICES**

GRAND MASTER:

R.W. Bro. Anton Oscar Aspeslet — Born, Surrey, England, July 1st, 1918. Initiated Charity No. 67, November 17th, 1958. W. M. 1964 and 1970. D.D.G.M., District No. 7, 1971-72. Board of General Purposes 1970. Member Committee on the Work 1972-73, 1974-75. Dairy Specialist, Department of Agriculture. (By Acclamation)

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER:

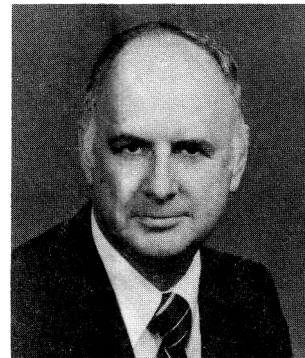
R.W. Bro. Kenneth Lord Crockett — Born Calgary, February 12th, 1919. Initiated Acacia No. 11, September 23rd, 1948. Charter Member Avon Glen No. 170, May 8th, 1952. W.M. 1956. Board of General Purposes 1962-63, 1964-65, 1967-68, 1973-74. Committee on Grievances and Appeals 1963-66. Representative of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island 1964. Grand Registrar 1966-67. Committee on the Revision of Masonic Trial Procedure 1963-66. Chairman and member of the Committee on the Revision of the Constitution of Grand Lodge 1966-68. General Chairman of the Banff Spring Workshop 1968. Jurisprudence Committee 1973-74. Lawyer. (By Acclamation)

SENIOR GRAND WARDEN:

R.W. Bro. Robert Lefley Costigan — Born Calgary, December 16th, 1923. Initiated Corinthian No. 22, July 7th, 1953. W.M. 1963. Charter Member Elbow River No. 180, 1959. W.M. 1965. D.D.G.M. District No. 6, 1968-69. Board of General Purposes, 1966, 1967, 1969, 1970 and 1972. Bulletin Committee 1967 to 1974. Grand Treasurer 1973-74 and 1974-75. Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota. Unit Supervisor, Calgary Data Centre, Gulf Oil Canada Limited. (By Acclamation)

JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN:

R.W. Bro. William Neil Love — Born Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, January 23rd, 1922. Initiated Renfrew No. 134, April 22nd, 1946. W.M. 1962. Board of General Purposes 1972-73, 1973-74. Member of the Finance Committee 1973 to present. D.D.G.M. District No. 1, 1975-76. Self employed Businessman. (By Acclamation)



GRAND TREASURER (By Acclamation)

R.W. Bro. Walter Elmer Bright (134)

GRAND REGISTRAR (one to be elected)

W. Bro. Carl Henry Schroder (101)

W. Bro. Thomas Edward Wayte (81)

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE (three to be elected)

W. Bro. James Scott Forsythe (48)

R.W. Bro. Hugh Alfred Gillard (22)

R.W. Bro. John Halliday Hare (37)

W. Bro. David Spalding (1)

**MASONIC HIGHER EDUCATION BURSARY
COMMITTEE (two to be elected)**

R.W. Bro. Horace Allen (30)

M.W. Bro. William John Collett (83)

W. Bro. Keith Leland Evans (87)

W. Bro. Ralph Henry Ohrn (193)

R.W. Bro. William Edwin Robinson (51)

R.W. Bro. Orlough Paul Thomas (183)

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES (eight to be elected)

W. Bro. Henry Grey Adams (59)

V.W. Bro. Beverley Vincent Apperley (9)

W. Bro. Jack Brown (81)

W. Bro. John Hamilton Burch (118)

R.W. Bro. Robert Wallace Campbell (101)

W. Bro. John DoBush (25)

R.W. Bro. Terrance Armitage Drolet (15)

R.W. Bro. Donald Stanley Edwards (13)

W. Bro. Edward Henry Ficht (166)

R.W. Bro. Walter Edward Foster (16)

R.W. Bro. Harry William Gerrard (183)

W. Bro. Gordon Alexander Hay (37)

W. Bro. Myron Lusk (166)

R.W. Bro. Murdo Norman MacIver (192)

R.W. Bro. Fritho Rudger Erick Mulder (22)

W. Bro. Elmer Winston Paul (165)

R.W. Bro. Arthur Gair Phillips (12)

V.W. Bro. Christian Martin Rud (50)

R.W. Bro. Brian Edwin Wayne Smith (184)

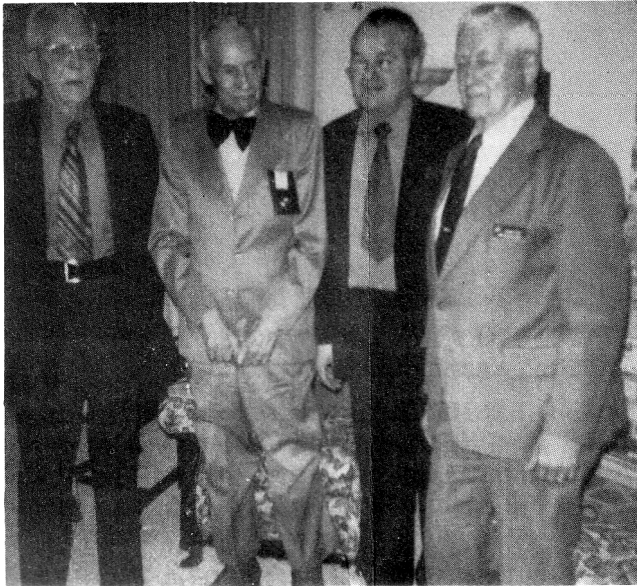
W. Bro. Frank Clayton Kenneth Tye (192)

R.W. Bro. Thomas Stratton Walker (134)

V.W. Bro. Konrad Wenner (170)

QUARRY LODGE NO. 70

R.W. Bro. R. C. Hargrave was honoured on February 16th when nine brothers from Quarry Lodge No. 70 went to his home to present this long time member with a Fifty Year Jewel. R.W. Bro. Mel Collard made the presentation speech and V.W. Bro. E. T. Cooke assisted by R.W. Bro. J. R. W. Cann pinned the jewel on Bro. Hargrave's lapel. An Anniversary Cake was cut in honour of the occasion.



Pictured are — V.W. Bro. E. T. Cooke, R. W. Bro. R. C. Hargrave, W. Bro. N. N. O. Bonin (W.M. of Quarry Lodge) and R.W. Bro. J. R. W. Cann (Secretary).

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Evergreen Lodge No. 166 has granted a life membership to Bro. John Hiltons.

Bro. Samuel H. Purshall has been granted a life membership in Buffalo Park Lodge No. 44.

KITSCOTY LODGE NO. 131

M.W. Bro. W. A. Milligan, Grand Master, assisted by a number of Grand Lodge Officers officiated at the laying of the Cornerstone for the new Masonic Hall in Kitscoty at a ceremony held on April 10th.

FOOTHILLS LODGE NO. 174

Some members of Foothills Lodge No. 174 took time to pay a visit to an old time member Bro. Andy Anderson on the occasion of his 102nd birthday and to wish him well in his 103rd year. The tribute was graciously received and appreciated and the lodge was saddened to learn that about a month later Bro. Andy Anderson passed to his reward.

REMEMBER THE POSTAL CODE

It is now mandatory that the Postal Code be used on all mail. Several Lodge Notices contain notes from the secretaries asking members to be sure that the Lodge Secretary has postal codes for all members. Please check with the secretary of your Lodge to make sure he has your postal code.

JOINT INSTALLATION

Wetaskiwin Lodge No. 15 and Star of the West Lodge No. 34, Leduc, held a joint installation in January at the Masonic Temple in Wetaskiwin. W. Bro. R. A. Wibraham was installed as Master of Wetaskiwin Lodge and V.W. Bro. W. A. Bell as Master of Star of the West Lodge. Wetaskiwin Lodge, which practices the York Rite, used that ritual and Star of the West worked in the Canadian Rite. Over one hundred brethren attended the festival. The M.W. the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. W. A. Milligan and the Senior Grand Warden, R.W. Bro. K. L. Crockett were present for the installation.



Pictured above are those participating in the joint installation of Officers of Wetaskiwin Lodge No. 15 and Star of The West Lodge No. 34, of Leduc, at the Masonic Temple in Wetaskiwin in January 1976. Top row left to right. R.W. Bro. Terry Drolet, D.D.G.M. W. Bro. George Coulling, I.P.M. Star of The West. W. Bro. Adrian Richardson, I.P.M. Wetaskiwin Lodge, W. Bro. Dale Davies, Installing Master. Front row. R.W. Bro. Ken Crockett, Senior Grand Warden, Grand Lodge of Alberta, V.W. Bro. W. A. Bell, installed as W.M. Star of The West Lodge No. 34. W. A. (Sandy) Milligan, Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Alberta, W. Bro. R. A. Wilbraham, installed as W.M. Wetaskiwin Lodge No. 15 and W. Bro. Hugh Forsyth of Wetaskiwin Lodge.

WHAT MASONRY MEANS TO ME

"It is a source of help and comfort and pleasure I can absolutely rely upon. When I have wearied of other labours I can turn confidently to my lodge room and find companionship and courage. There is something indefinable in Masonry I can find nowhere else in the world. Masonry has greatly enriched my life. It has given me friendship that I cherish dearly."

Edgar A. Guest